IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Byrd et al.

Appl. No.: 10/633,690

Filed: August 5, 2003

For: Compositions and Methods for

Molecular Biology

Confirmation No.: 5456

Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 0942.5230004/RWE

Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended two months from January 6, 2004 to April 6, 2004 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$950.00 for a three month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

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950.00 OP

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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Date: April 6, 2004

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